

ZERO ZERO

JAN/FEB 1996



Bill
GRIFFITH

FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS

The SHIT Eaters

by
BETO/95



"The Chuckling Whatsit"

Six, actually.



TWO

Part Six by Richard Sals

"Bestworld" by Bill Griffith

DO YOU WANT ME CIRCUMCIZED?



TWENTY-NINE

"Funny Bunny" by Archer Prewitt

longer so cut
it shorter.



"The Strange Secret of Molly

"O'Dare" Part Two by Kim Deitch

THAT
WAS BAD! BUT
HEN MY LIQUOR

and Fowlion Means

THIRTY

"Good Claus Bad Claus" by Max

NO
TOYS?
HOW VERY
UNFORTUNATE.

Anderson FORTY-TWO

GOD HELP US, EVERYONE!



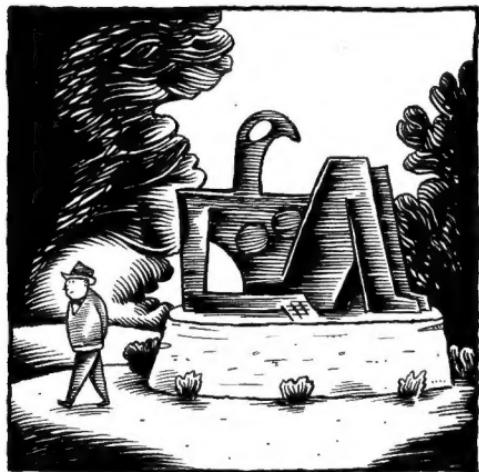
the Chuckling Whatsit

© 1995 Richard Sala

Previously ~

Professor Peeke hires Broom to continue the research Abigail Aberdevine was doing before she vanished: digging into the life of mysterious outsider artist Emile Jarnac. Broom resigns his horoscope column — Peeke pays better, plus Broom has no desire to meet the maniac who has been killing astrology columnists. He visits Miss Limbo, a consultant to the murdered writers, and she tells him what Cyril Root, aka "Venus," revealed to her about the book he was writing on Jarnac.





At the center was an exquisite female figure. Hovering above her, suspended from a tiny noose, was another doll ~



~ It was an ugly, creepy little thing ~ and sewn inside of it was an ingenious mechanical device ~ whenever the doll was gently shaken or jostled, it made a hollow, metallic laughing sound.

HA-HA
HA-HA



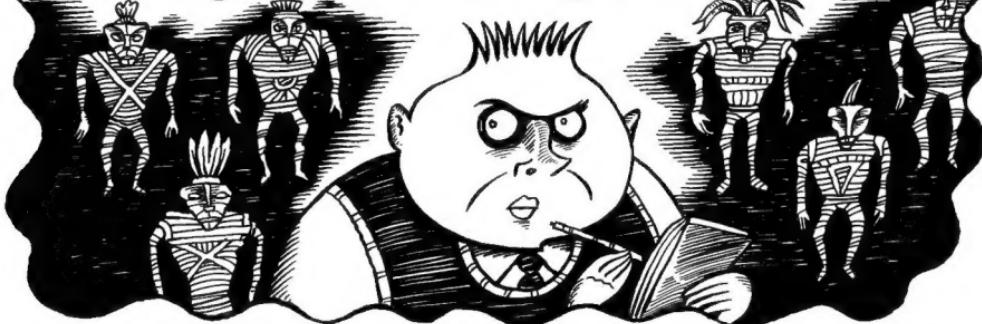
Jarnac had kept these singular talents to himself ~ a true outsider artist.

After attending to Jarnac's funeral, Vogardus, an erudite and savvy man, purchased the mill and had the room and its contents preserved. He imagined it would be of considerable interest to anyone intrigued by the relationship between creativity and insanity.

Maybe you should look into those nationally syndicated astrologers! They're the only ones who are benefiting from these crimes!



Because of its esoteric nature, Jarnac's windmill drew few visitors. Several reporters showed up and wrote articles. One was Cyril, who became totally absorbed in the story and spent long hours in the mill, soaking up the atmosphere.

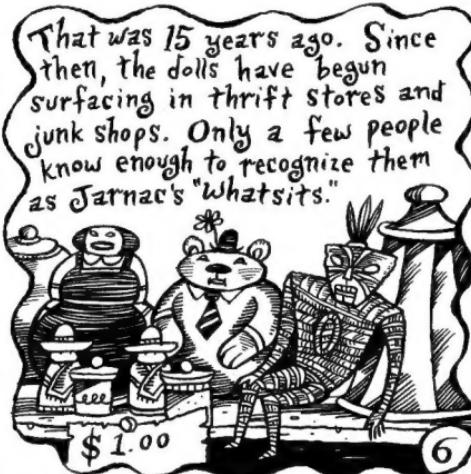


But some strange things happened. Townsfolk were convinced the mill was haunted. Sounds of someone working inside could be heard echoing late at night.



Then the mill was broken into. Somebody vandalized the place and stole the dolls. Vogardus was devastated. He gave up all of his other commitments and settled in Crow's Creek with a small practice.





Certain individuals, including Cyril, felt the dolls had potential to become quite valuable. Jarnac's tale had grown into a legend among art dealers, and more and more collectors were on the look-out.



Now many of the dolls are owned by one or two private collectors. But the female doll and the hanging doll are still lost and are highly sought after.

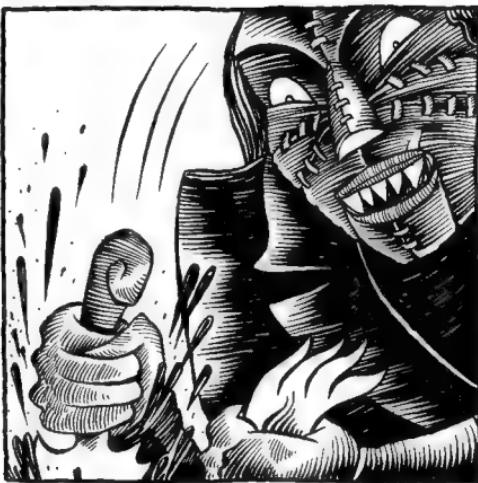


Oh ~ Something else Cyril told us ~



After his article was published, unable to forget Jarnac, Cyril returned to the mill. Snooping around, he discovered a door to an underground room. Apparently, it was a fascinating experience. He wouldn't tell us what he found ~ in fact he'd never spoken about it. But he planned to reveal all in his book on Jarnac.





Thanks for your help. I know this may be a tough time for you. Some of your colleagues — in fact, four from Root's list — have recently been killed.



Six, actually.



Found the real maid. She's defunct.



Got the head back yet?



I saw him again today. He's following me, I tell you.



He's back. He's come back.





CINCINNATI, OHIO: A SNOWY NIGHT IN MIDWINTER. BACKSTAGE AT EMERY AUDITORIUM...



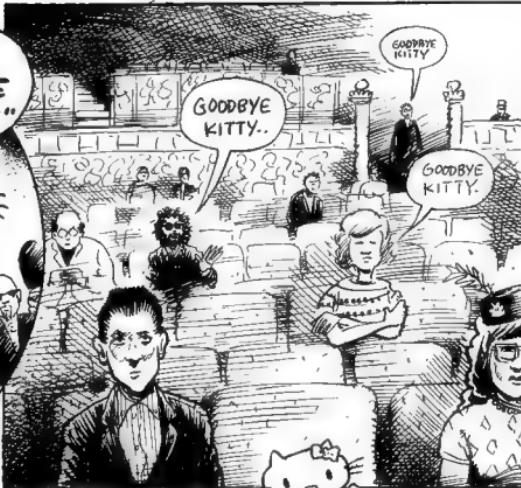
UNIFORMED YOUNGSTERS WITH PLANS FOR THE FUTURE FILE QUIETLY DOWN A CORRIDOR--





LEAVE THAT METRIC SYSTEM AT THE DOOR, MITSUBISHI!! I'LL TAKE MY CAPITALISM IN INCHES AND MILES!!

... SAY "GOODBYE KITTY!!"



AND DON'T YOU SO-CALLED "AMERICANS" FORGET!! WHEN CHEMICAL WASTE DUMPS ARE OUTLAWED ONLY OUTLAWS WILL HAVE CHEMICAL WASTE DUMPS!!

IF THIS COUNTRY'S A CESSPOOL, YOU'VE GOTTA BE A FLOATER!!



HELP US BUILD BESTWORLD WHERE NEW TRADITIONS ARE BORN!! JOIN THE CONCEPT!

GOODBYE KITTY..

... SAY "GOODBYE KITTY!!"



GOODBYE KITTY!!

GOODBYE KITTY!!

GOODBYE KITTY!!

GOODBYE KITTY!!



..OF COURSE, WE'RE NOT ALL SERIOUSNESS AT **BESTWORLD**..NOT AT ALL..IMAGINE A PLACE WHERE YOU CAN CASH YOUR UN-EMPLOYMENT CHECK IN COMPLETE SAFETY..WHERE THE PROBLEMS OF LIFE ARE SHED LIKE AN IMPORTED FLAMMABLE BATHROBE..

..A PLACE WHERE IT FEELS **GOOD** TO BE AN **AMERICAN** AGAIN..GOOD BECAUSE YOU'RE NO LONGER ASHAMED OR **GUILTY**. A PLACE IN WHICH TO **CONSUME**..TO **VIEW**.. TO HAVE **16.3 SEX PARTNERS** PER WEEKEND!!

-- AND WHERE IS THIS **BEST** OF ALL POSSIBLE WORLDS?..IS IT SOMEWHERE OUTSIDE **ORLANDO, FLORIDA**?..IS IT GLOWING IN THE **NEVADA DESERT**?..NO..-- IT'S IN YOUR **MIND**! THAT'S RIGHT! YOUR MIND AND MY MIND !!



EXT MORNING, IN A BACK-YARD ON DEXTER AVENUE--

DEAR ABBEY: IF I SQUEEZE 3 POUNDS OF CHOPPED LIVER INTO MY NEW WORD PROCESSOR, WILL IT ANNOUNCE THAT IT WON'T RUN IN '96 ??



UH-OH!! THE ORIGINAL CAST FROM "HOW TO STUFF A WILD BIKINI" JUST DROPPED IN UNEXPECTEDLY!!

FALLOUT SHELTER

50G
Mazola
OIL

DO YOU KIDS KNOW THAT, IN FRANCE, STELLA STEVENS IS WORSHIPPED LIKE A WOOD NYMPH?

AREN'T YOU CREST-FALLEN?



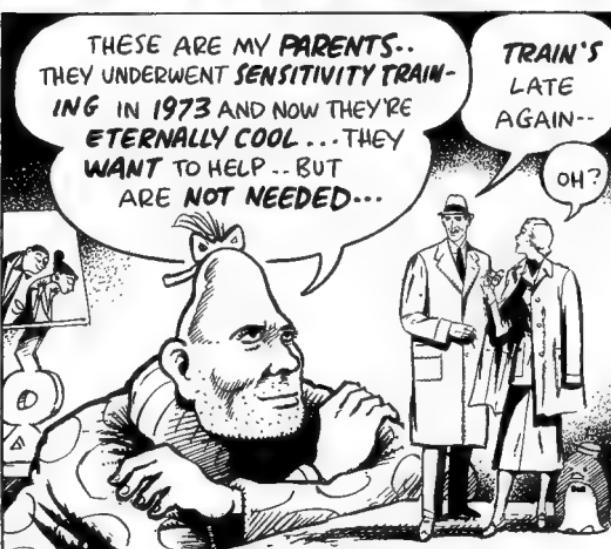
BRIAN DONLEVY!!
YOU'RE TOO SHORT
TO BE A MOVIE STAR!
BUT YOU ARE ONE
ANYWAY!!



THESE ARE MY PARENTS..
THEY UNDERWENT SENSITIVITY TRAINING
IN 1973 AND NOW THEY'RE
ETERNALLY COOL... THEY
WANT TO HELP... BUT
ARE NOT NEEDED...

TRAIN'S LATE
AGAIN--

OH?



LIFE IS FESTIVE IN
MY FUR-LINED FALLOUT
SHELTER... I THINK I'LL
WATCH CLOSE-UPS OF
MOIST INSECT LARVAE
ON EDUCATIONAL T.V. !!

-- THE TRACHYMID
LAWS ITS EGGS ON
THE UNDERSIDE OF
ACACIA LEAVES
AND ACTUALLY HAS
A BRITISH
ACCENT--

MAYBE WATCHING A
SCRAMBLED PAY-TV
CHANNEL IS LIKE
BEING PRESIDENT!

OH, LUIGI!
I LOVE IT
WHEN YOU
SIMULATE
PLEASURE!!

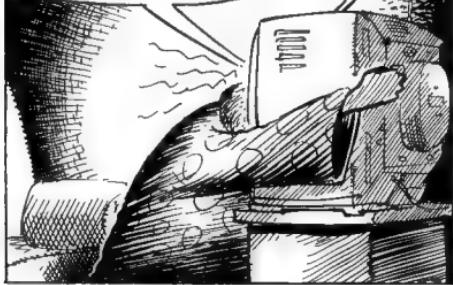


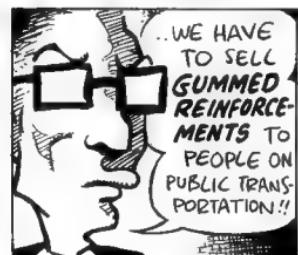
MODERN PEOPLE !!
DON'T LET IT ALL HANG OUT!
I WANT EVERYBODY TO
WEAR A SUIT AND NOT
KNOW ABOUT THE BEN-
EFITS OF LASER BEAMS!

..OUR
NEEDS ARE
YOUR NEEDS
AT HOUSE
OF DINETTES...

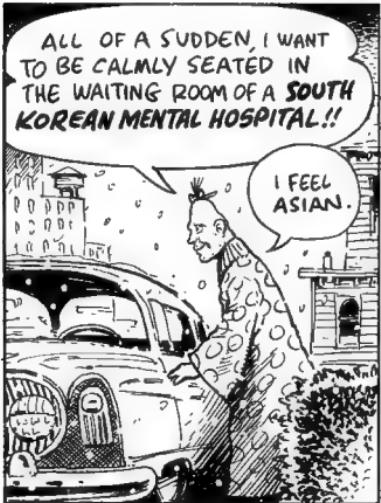
SGT. BILKO, WHY DO
SO MANY PROGRAMS
TODAY REMIND ME OF
THE LITTLE CIRCULAR
NUBS LEFT ON TOYS
MADE OUT OF EXTRUDED
PLASTIC ??

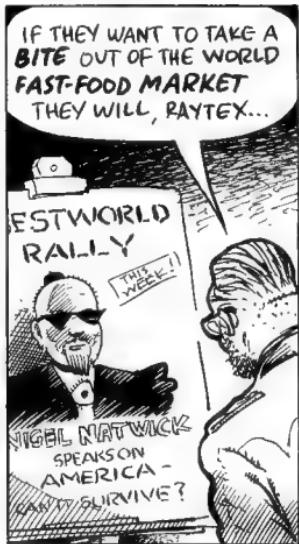
ZIPPY.. IT'S LIKE I
WAS TELLING COL. HALL-
WHEN WAS THE LAST
TIME ROCK VIDEO
MADE YOU A NICE
CABBAGE ROLL ??





GO GET TH' CAR..
--WE'RE GOING DOWNTOWN..





SOON, IN A ROOM BEHIND A NEARBY
BRANCH OF THE NATION-WIDE "SIR
DONUT" COFFEE-SHOP CHAIN---

YOUR CHARTS & GRAPHS
ARE VERY CONVINCING, MR.
JEETER.. THESE "BESTWORLD"
DEVOTÉES COULD PROVIDE
AN EXCELLENT COMMUNITY
SERVICE BRIGADE..

I WOULDN'T HAVE
ASKED SO MANY OF YOU
TO FLY IN FROM OSAKA
& TOKYO FOR ANYTHING
LESS IMPORTANT!!

.. SUGAR, STARCH,
CAFFEINE AND
WORLD DONUT
DOMINATION
INDEED HANG IN
THE BALANCE!!



THE ULTRA-SEVEN
COMPANY - AND THE ENTIRE
SANROYO ORGANIZATION - HAS
COMMITTED MILLIONS OF YEN
TO THE SUCCESS OF THE "SIR
DONUT" ENTERPRISE.. BEFORE WE
ATTEMPT A "BESTWORLD PEN-
ETRATION" WE MUST HAVE
MORE INFORMATION..

NATURALLY.. MY
PEOPLE ARE OUT IN
THE FIELD AS WE SPEAK,
TESTING THE WATERS..
I HAVE EVERY REASON
TO BELIEVE WE CAN
BUY - THAT IS, BRING
AROUND TO OUR POINT
OF VIEW - THEIR
TOP LEADERS..

THIS "BESTWORLD
U.S.A." THEY PLAN TO
BUILD.. A VAST PROPAGANDA
& AMUSEMENT COMPLEX..
IT WOULD BE AN IDEAL
TEMPLE - THAT IS, SHOW-
CASE - FOR OUR SHINY,
CREME-FILLED, PINK
BAKED GOODS!!



YES? WE HAD TO ADD
MORE NUTMEG FOR
YOUR SHARELESS AMER-
ICAN TONGUES..

-- OH,
WELL...

WHAT DO YOU THINK
OF OUR NEW "FIRSTAID
FLOAT"? IS IT A DE-
LIGHTFUL "POP STAR"
TASTE TREND??

WELL,
IT'S...

AND OUR
MOTTO.. "JUM-
BOG IS COOL"
FOR THE ULTRA
COOKIE?

JUM-
BOG?

IS IT
POPULAR
AMONG
YOUR
TEENS?

THE PACKAGING
IS WELL-MADE
AS IF ACRYLIC
WAS A NEW
SKIN DELIGHT!

OH,
YES...
I...

... DO YOU
AGREE IN
AN AMER-
ICAN WAY?



UH, THE ACRYLIC PACKAGING IS..UH.. SMOOTH.. IT SHOULD HELP SELL A LOT OF KRULLERS...IT'S PINK..

KRULLER IS THAT A NEW TEEN FAD?

WHAT MY ASSOCIATE MEANS IS, HE'S SURE YOUR POINT OF SALE STRATEGY IS RIGHT ON TARGET!

WE ARE MOST FLATTERED!

SO, MR. JEETER, WE SHALL AWAIT YOUR PROGRESS IN RECRUITING THESE "BESTIES" FOR OUR SANROY TEAM!

I'LL BE IN TOUCH IN A FEW DAYS!!



GOOD-BYE, HONORED GUESTS!!

GEE, MR. J., I HOPE I DIDN'T BLOW ANYTHING BACK THERE..

ARE YOU KIDDING? WE'VE GOT THEM EATING OUT OF OUR HANDS!!



WELL, THAT'S OVER! JEETER SHOULD PROVE USEFUL - FOR A WHILE.. YOU THINK THE "HUMBLE SERVANT" BIT WORKED ??

ENOUGH TO MAKE THEM THINK THEY HAVE AN ADVANTAGE OVER US.. MAN, I'LL BE GLAD WHEN WE CAN DROP THE "MR. MOTO" ROUTINES!!

"JUMBOG IS COOL" - THAT WAS A GOOD ONE!!



SEVERAL MILES AWAY, ON A CROSSTOWN BUS--

LISSEN, THESE ARE "DENNISON"! THEY DON'T MAKE GUMMED REINFORCEMENTS LIKE THIS ANYMORE!! ..ONLY 50¢!!



IN CALIFORNIA, PEOPLE USE THEM TO PREVENT MID-LIFE CRISIS!!



PLUS, IF YOU LOOK REAL HARD AT THE HOLE IN THE MIDDLE FRED MACMURRAY'S ENTIRE LIFESTYLE PASSES BEFORE YOUR EYES!!

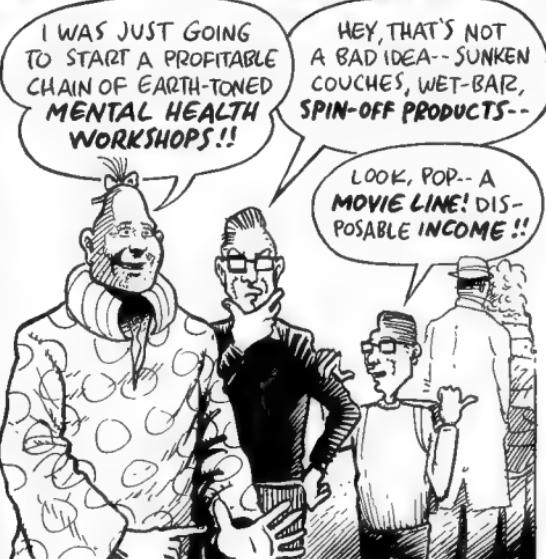


SHELF-LIFE, WAS "MY THREE SONS" ABOUT JACK WEBB AND A PASSIVE SHETLAND PONY LOST ON LONG ISLAND WITH AUDREY MEADOWS??

SHELF-LIFE...?

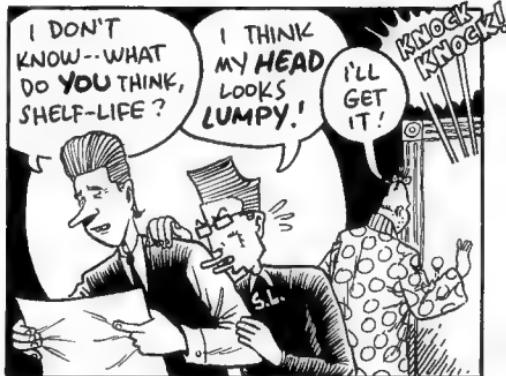
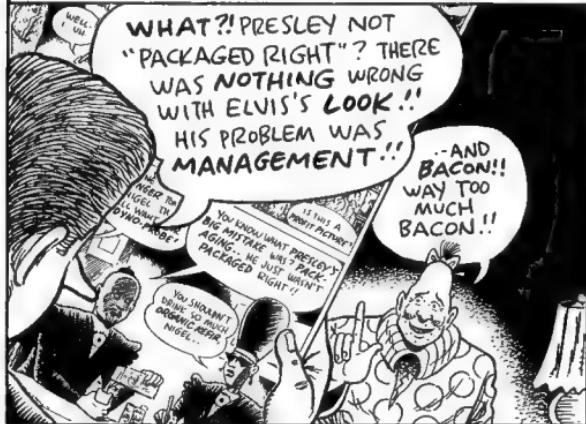
SELL ANY YET??



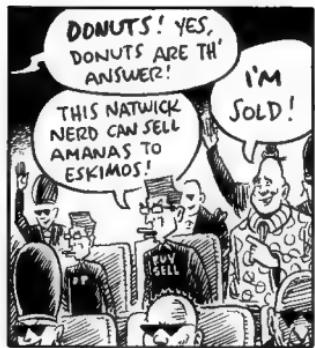




SUDDENLY, IT'S 14 YEARS LATER...YET, MUCH
LIKE TH' RAPACIOUS FREE MARKET SYS-
TEM, OUR STORY MUST GO ON ---

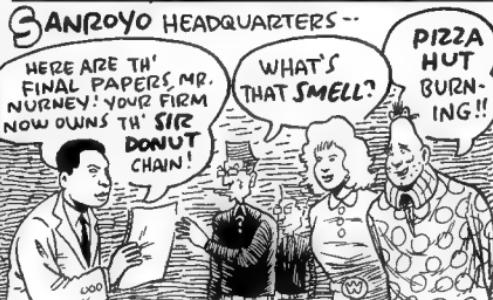
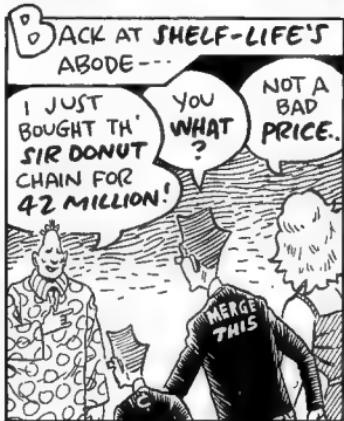
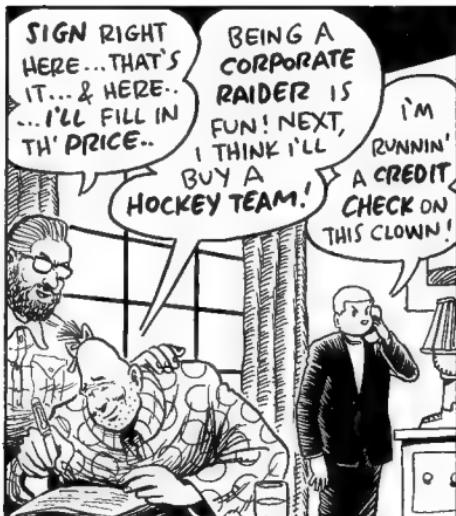






ATER, AT SANROYO HEAD-
QUARTERS IN TOKYO--





ONE YEAR LATER...

UH-OH! SALES ARE DOWN AGAIN, S.L.! WE'VE GOT TO FIND A NEW BUYER! HOW DID I KNOW TH' BOTTOM WOULD FALL OUT OF TH' JAPANESE ECONOMY?

DOWNTOWN TOKYO...

CARE FOR ANOTHER SUPER JUMBOG? NO, THANKS.. BUT I'D LIKE TO BUY TH' COMPANY!

LUCKY YOU CAUGHT ME IN A SELLING MODE! WHERE DO I SIGN?

RIGHT HERE! AND I'LL TAKE A PINK LATTE TO GO!!

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED! TH' MERGER IS COMPLETE! YES.. WE ALL WIN!!

HELLO--- BESTWORLD. START PACK-
ING! IT'S A DONE DEAL!

CINCINNATI...

AND, AS LOYAL MEMBERS OF TH' BESTWORLD DREAM TEAM, YOUR PATIENCE IS REWARDED AT LAST! ..UH.. ANYBODY SPEAK JAPANESE?

WORK ON TH' PARK IS ON SCHEDULE, H.K.! OPENING DAY WILL BE A BEAUTIFUL DAY!

EVERY DAY IS A BEAUTIFUL DAY WHEN YOUR CONCEPT IS PRE-SOLD!

AND SO...

BESTWORLD WELCOMES YOU TO JAPAN...

...SAY HELLO, KITTY!!

HELLO, KITTY!

HAVE AN ULTRA COOKIE?

-- GET YOUR GUMMED REIN-
FORCEMENTS HERE!
ONLY 200 YEN!

OOOH, I LOVE TH'
NEW NEON COLORS!

BESTWORLD

PACKAGING,
SHELF-LIFE!
PACKAGING
IS EVERYTHING!

SIR
DONUT

End

FUNNY BUNNY.



END

The Strange Secret of Molly O'dare

CONTINUED

1947: GORTON'S BAR ON THE AMUSEMENT PIER AT VENICE CALIFORNIA. A REPORTER NAMED FOWLTON MEANS HAS JUST WITNESSED THE APPARENT SIGHTING OF A SILENT FILM STAR WHO SUPPOSEDLY DIED IN 1922.

WHY YOU'RE THE VERY IMAGE OF MOLLY O'DARE!

WILL YOU PLEASE
GO AWAY!

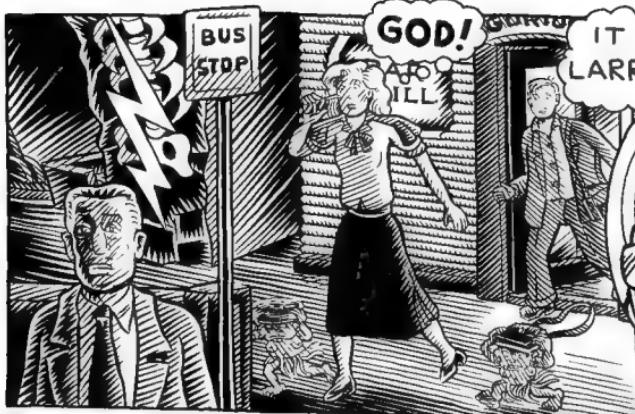
GORTON'S
BAR
MOVIE
NIGHT

MOLLY WAS
LONG THOUGHT TO
HAVE BEEN LOST
AT SEA, WHILE DOING
LOCATION SHOTS
FOR A MOVIE
SERIAL.

PIONEER
DIRECTOR,
D.W.GRIFFITH.

MEANS
HAS JUST
BEEN REGALED
WITH THE FULL
PARTICULARS OF THE
INCIDENT BY MOLLY'S
LEADING MAN ON
THAT ILL FATED
SERIAL, LARRY
FARREL.

INTRIGUED, MEANS FOLLOWS THE MYSTERIOUS GIRL OUT OF THE BAR.







WELL, IT CERTAINLY HAS
MADE FOR AN UNFORSEEN
COMPLICATION.

AW GEE, DOC,
HE IS KIND OF
CUTE,

...CAN'T WE KEEP HIM?

WELL, WE'LL
SEE.
ANYWAY,
WE WON'T DO
ANYTHING DRASTIC
RIGHT AWAY.

THE FINAL STOP OF THIS STRANGE SUBTERRANEAN RIDE IS AN UNCHARTED
PACIFIC ISLAND. THE NEXT DAY MOLLY GIVES FOWLTON MEANS THE GRAND TOUR.

WOW!

GOD! IT MUST HAVE TAKEN A LONG TIME TO GET THIS SET-UP TOGETHER!

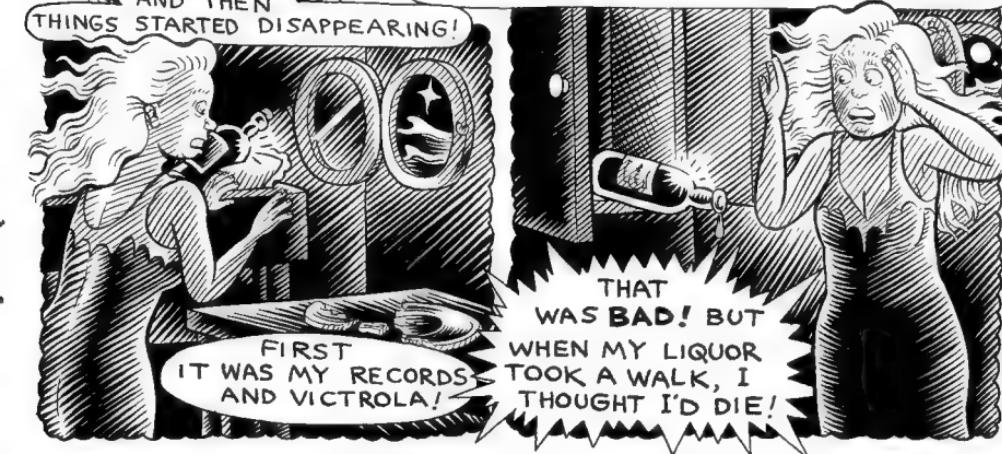
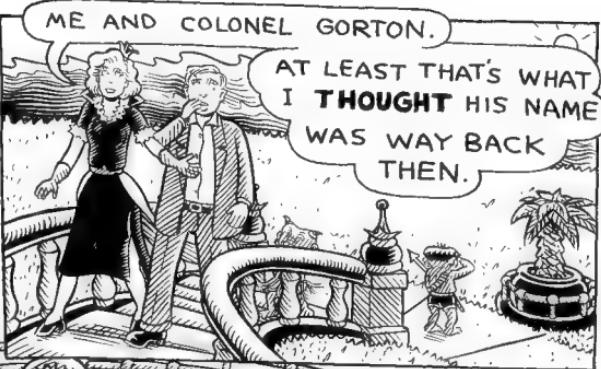
NOT REALLY.

AT LEAST THAT'S
WHAT I USED TO
THINK.

BUT IT'S
A FUNNY
THING
ABOUT
THIS
PLACE.

...TIME HAS
A WAY OF GOING BY
KIND OF FAST.

ANYWAY, YOU BETTER
BELIEVE IT
WAS A FAR
CRY FROM
ALL THIS
WHEN I
FIRST GOT
HERE.



10
DAYS WENT BY ON NOTHING
BUT CANNED

FOOD AND
COCOANUTS. IT WAS THE FIRST
TIME I'D COMPLETELY
DRIED OUT IN YEARS!

I WAS ACTUALLY BEGINNING
TO FEEL PRETTY GOOD
EXCEPT FOR BEING SO

LONELY!

THEN ONE NIGHT I
HEARD PAUL WHITEMAN'S
RECORDING OF "WHISPERING"
OFF IN THE DISTANCE;
ONE OF MY MISSING
RECORDS!

I FOLLOWED THE SOUND IN A
CRAZED DAZE TO THE TOP OF
A HILL!....

AND FELL
RIGHT INTO
A STRANGE
GROTTO WITH
ALL MY
MISSING
THINGS,

AND
SOME EVEN
STRANGER
LITTLE
PEOPLE!

HEY'D BEEN
AT MY LIQUOR
FOR DAYS!

AND THE
MEN HAD
THEIR PAWS
ON ME IN
NOTHING
FLAT!

BUT ONE
OF THE WOMEN
POINTED OUT
A TUNNEL AND
I RAN FOR IT!

STRANGELY,
NONE OF THE
OTHERS MADE
ANY ATTEMPT
TO FOLLOW.
BUT STRANGER
YET WAS WHAT
I FOUND AT
THE END OF
THE TUNNEL.

PICTURES
OF ME WERE
ALL OVER!

MOLLY!

AND
THERE WAS
THE COLONEL!
AND IN THE
MIDDLE OF THE
ROOM, WATCHING
ONE OF MY MOVIES,
WERE TWELVE OF
THE ODDEST LITTLE
MEN I EVER
SAW!

APPARENTLY THEY'RE THE REAL POWER HERE. BUT ALL THEY SEEM TO BE INTERESTED IN IS COLLECTING AND WATCHING MOVIES!



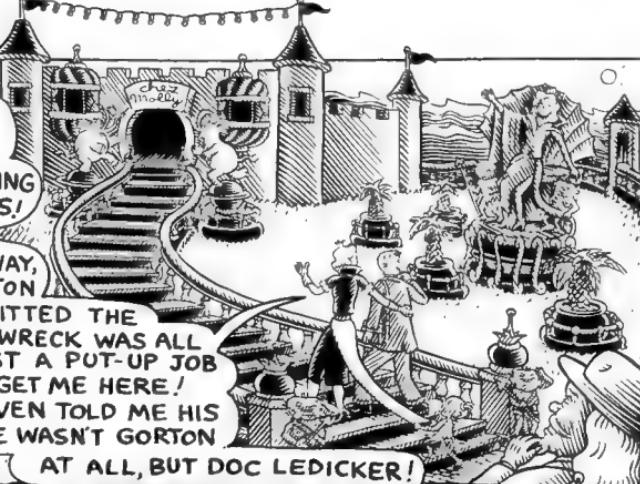
ANYWAY, GORTON ADMITTED THE SHIPWRECK WAS ALL JUST A PUT-UP JOB TO GET ME HERE! HE EVEN TOLD ME HIS NAME WASN'T GORTON

AT ALL, BUT DOC LEDICKER!

BUT I WASN'T EXACTLY A PRISONER, EITHER. HE TOLD ME I WAS FREE TO GO IF I WANTED,

BUT HE ALSO TOLD ME THE "GREY ONES," WHICH IS WHAT HE CALLED THE LITTLE MEN, WERE

HOPING I'D BECOME QUEEN OF THE PRIMITIVE PYGMYS UP ABOVE AND MAYBE LIVEN THINGS UP FOR THEM A LITTLE ON THE ISLAND.



WELL, IT SOUNDED LIKE JUST ABOUT THE SCREWIEST THING I EVER HEARD AND I TOLD HIM I WANTED TO GO HOME!

AND DOC SAID THAT WAS OKAY, BUT FIRST HE WANTED TO SHOW ME SOMETHING.



Molly

AND AS
YOU CAN SEE,

...WE'VE COME A LONG WAY SINCE THEN.

...I'M ON TH' CREST
OF A WAVE!

YEAH,

IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE PRETTY MUCH GOT IT MADE.

WELL, ALMOST...

WELL, (UH), WHAT I GUESS
I'M TRYING TO
SAY IS,...

THE LAST TWENTY-
FIVE YEARS
MAY HAVE GONE
BY KINDA FAST,
...BUT, WELL, IT
STILL SEEMS
LIKE A LONG
TIME TO BE
WITHOUT A REAL
MAN!

AND SO...

CONCLUDES NEXT ISSUE!

GOOD CLAUS BAD CLAUS

I'M AFRAID THERE AREN'T ANY CHRISTMAS PRESENTS FOR YOU THIS YEAR EITHER, MY DARLING.

IT DOESN'T MATTER, MOM. DON'T YOU KNOW SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TONIGHT?

BY MAX ANDERSSON

EH... SURE, LITTLE ONE. OF COURSE SANTA CLAUS WILL COME. NOW GO TO SLEEP, SOON IT WILL BE CHRISTMAS DAY

THAT NIGHT:

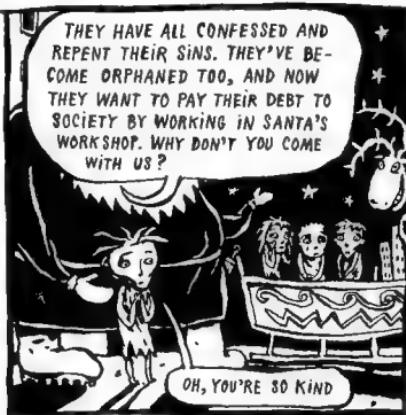
WHAT'S THAT SOUND IN THE RADIATOR? I THOUGHT THEY SHUT OFF THE HEAT

KADONG
KADONG









... WELCOME TO THE TOY MINES
HA HA



MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM ZERO ZERO AND MAX ANDERSSON !!!

AYEARPASSESLIKENOTHINGWITHZEROZERO

zero
zero

Editor Kim Thompson

Art Director

Peppy White

Cover Bill Griffith

Back Cover

Dave Collier

Front cover coloring

executed by

Jameson Service

Contributing Cartoonists

(present) Max

Anderson, David

Collier, Kim Deitch

Bill Griffith, Gilmer

Hernandez, Richard

Contributing Cartoonists

(past & future) Max

Anderson, Mark Beyer,

Stephano Blanquet,

Charles Burns, Dan

Craig, Jim Coughlin,

Dame Diana, Mike

Diana, Michael Dougan,

Bob Fingerman, Mary

Feehery, Drew Friedman,

Timothy Georakakis,

Justin Green, Glenn

Hess, Sam Houser,

David Holzman, Jeff

Johnson, Kaz, Matsi?

David Mezzacappa, Th.

Metzger, Pat Moriarity,

Mark Newgarden,

Andrea Pappalardo,

Stack, Henriette Valium,

Penny Moran Van Horn,

Chris Ware, Meck

Wright, J.R. Williams,

Skip Williamson, Jim

Woodring

Promotion Carl Jacobs,

Eric Reynolds

Circulation Matt Counts,

Kitty Ireland



ZERO ZERO, Inc., P.O. 1006.

ZERO ZERO (ISSN: 1083-2823)

is published bi-monthly by Fantagraphics Books. All artwork and writing is the sole property of the respective writers and artists: Max

Anderson, David Collier, Kim

Deitch, Bill Griffith, Gilmer

Hernandez, and Richard Sala. Cover

© 1995 Bill Griffith. No part of

the material contained herein

is reproduced without written permission

from Fantagraphics Books

or the creator. No similarity

between the names of the characters,

persons, and institutions in

ZERO ZERO and those of any

other person or entity is in-

tended, and any such similarity

that may exist is purely coinci-

dent. ZERO ZERO is not a

periodical, nor is it a periodical

publication. Letters to the

magazine and ads are assumed

for publication in whole or in

part, and may therefore be used

for other publications.

First printing: December 1995. Fantagraphics Books, 7813 Lake City

Way NE, Seattle, Washington,

98115. PRINTED IN CANADA.

Welcome, welcome, welcome! With this, the seventh issue of **ZERO ZERO**, we conclude the first year of publication of this fine zine.

Because of the column-length paean to **Kim Deitch** last issue, a few of our contributors got gyped out of their contributor's notes. Let me rectify this posthaste.

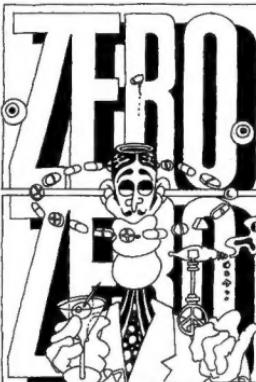
Bob Fingerman, whose maiden effort in **ZERO ZERO** appeared last issue, is a big ol' workhorse in the alternative comics bizz. After several publications under the august EROS banner, with whose titles we won't sully this august rag (except for **SKINHEADS IN LOVE**), he rose to new heights with **WHITE LIKE SHE**, a mini-series he created for Dark Horse Comics. Since then, he has written **ROCK 'N' ROLL HIGH SCHOOL** for Cosmic Comics (the third issue of which, although completed, will never appear due to Cosmic's shutdown, making it the rarest Fingerman comic ever!!), and is the writer/artist of **"Ots Pedoblocker"** (a series of eight-page back-ups for **DARK HORSE PRESENTS**), **"Monkey Jank"** (a series for **PENTHOUSE COMIX**), and his pride 'n' joy, the new slice o' life **Wingy-Autobio** master(b)ation piece **MINIMUM WAGE**, for none other than Fantagraphics Books, the second issue of which should be out in time for your Christmas shopping. Wow!

The exuberant Mr. Fingerman also wanted it known that the **"Th. Metzger"** who was credited with the story for **"Hypnagogoo"** was not just some pimply-faced cartoon wannabe, but an actual gen-yu-wine

published novelist, whose prose masterpieces **BIG GURL**, **SHOCK TOTEM**, and **DROWNING IN FIRE** can be found at any hipster bookstore near you. Mr. Metzger's next project is a detailed history of the electric chair — obviously a volume that will belong on every **ZERO ZERO** reader's nightstand. We'd mention it by name here, but we'd rather Mr. Metzger's publisher take out a paid ad instead.

Last issue's back cover "Apocalypse" cartoonist, **Rick Altergott**, has graduated to the big time with his new gig as the official back-up story provider for **Peter Bagge's HATE**, beginning with the issue that goes on sale this week. If you've been waiting (for close to a year now) for the follow-up to Mr. Altergott's **DOOFUS, HATE** is the place to seek out his work, because **DOOFUS #2**, while definitely under construction, is at least a half a year away from completion.

Did we mention that **Skip Williamson**, last issue's inside front cover artist, has gone into the self-publishing business? I think we did, but for those of you with short memories, you can order a copy of Mr. Williamson's latest, **SMOOT #1**, for \$3.95 postpaid from P.O. Box 440427, Kennesaw, GA 30144. Williamson fans will be pleased to know that the ol' hipster himself is working on an eight-page story-cum-cover for the ninth issue of



ZERO ZERO, a mere four months down the road. Here's a look at his advance sketch for that cover.

As for the league of rascals responsible for the pile of cartoon infamy currently steaming in your hand, a few well-chosen words:

Bill Griffith, creator of the daily **ZIPPY THE PINHEAD** comic strip, wishes it to be known that he has no plans to retire his daily strip next year, or any time in the foreseeable future. Incidentally, this particular story, "BestWorld," was begun in 1982, which means that if you, the **ZERO ZERO** reader, are, for instance, 22 years old, you were nine when he first laid pen to paper. This is the kind of thing to keep people humble (including Mr. Griffith, who averaged a little less than a page and a half a year up until its completion in November of 1995).

Did we mention **Richard Sala's** new book **THE GHASTLY ONES?** It's on sale now from Manic D Press — you can order it for \$9.95 from Manic D, Box 410804, San Francisco, CA 94141. The insatiable Mr. Sala also welcomes your mail (he has a catalogue of art for sale and other stuff) at 2625 Alcatraz Avenue, #183, Berkeley, CA 94705. — but don't order **The Ghastly Ones** from that address, okay?



David Collier — the only cartoonist to have appeared in, or on, every **ZERO ZERO** so far — has a new work out, his **SEATTLE SKETCH-BOOK**. Available or \$4.00 postpaid from Starhead Comics, P.O. Box 30044, Seattle WA 98103. Compiled during his recent sojourn in the Emerald City, this collection of Collier doodles is the next best thing to actually dragging your galoshes around the Space Needle — and there's lots of guest appearances by other cartoonists, mercifully captured by Mr. Collier's acid penstrokes.

Finally, a man who needs no introduction: **Gilbert Hernandez**, whose inside front cover story got this issue off to such a roasting start (far more roasting than all this blather at its conclusion). Mr. Hernandez is even now busily writing and drawing his half of **LOVE & ROCKETS #50**, after which he and brother **Jaime** will, in the tradition of Gary Larson and Bill Watterson, pull the plug on this beloved cartoon favorite in order to devote themselves to exciting new works — in Gilbert's case, no less than two new comics during 1996, plus, if everyone is extra special good, maybe even a fifth issue of **BIRDLAND**.



Next issue: Our special gala-length extravaganza first anniversary issue, featuring the last chapter of Deitch's "Molly O'Dare" saga, new chunks of "The Chuckling Whatsit," "Homunculus," and "Car-Boy" (in color no less), plus **Mack White**, **Dave Collier**, **Ted Stearn**, **Archer Prewitt**, **Mike Diana**, a back cover from **Henriette Valium**, and a neotanically creepy cover by **Charles Burns**. Yow!

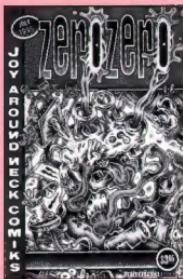
PROBLEM: (you missed these)



1 MARCH/APRIL 1995!
Premiere! Bukowski & Morriarty! Frank Stack's "Jesus" returns! Plus Andersson, Collier, Diana, Head, Holzman, Valium, Williams, the first "Fuzz & Pluck" by Stearn, and a wild Gary Panter cover!



2 MAY/JUNE 1995! Sala's "Chuckles What'sit" begins, the premiere of "Homunculus" by Mack White, new "Trashman" story by Spain, plus Andersson, Collier, Head, Mats!?, Mazzucchelli, Stack, and Wayno!



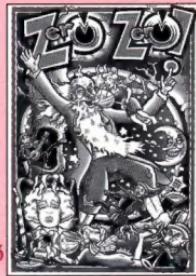
3 JULY 1995! Soothing Valium cover! Energizing Sandlin back cover! Plus Andersson, Collier, Head, Newgarden, Sala, Stack, Stearn, Williamson, and Doofus creator Rick Altergott's insane "Douche Bag Dougan"!



4 AUGUST 1995! Spectacular two-color Al Columbia strip! The premiere of Kaz/Georgarakis's "Meat Box" series! Plus Jeff Johnson, Carol Tyler, Dave Collier, Richard Sala, Ted Stearn, and a back cover by Mark Beyer!



5 SEPTEMBER 1995! Superb Joe Coleman cover painting! Big new Max Andersson story featuring Car-Boy! Plus White's "Homunculus," Ware, Collier, several Deitch one-pagers, and the conclusion of Kaz/Georgarakis's "Meat Box"!



6 NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1995! Kim Deitch returns with a new sequel to "Shadowland"! A new "Fuzz and Pluck" chapter by Ted Stearn! Plus Rick Altergott, Dave Collier, Richard Sala, Skip Williamson, and Bob Fingerman!

zero
zero

SOLUTION: (get 'em now!)

Please send me:

- ZERO ZERO #1 (Mar./April 1995) \$3.95 + \$1.00 = \$4.95 ppd.
- ZERO ZERO #2 (May/June 1995) \$3.95 + \$1.00 = \$4.95 ppd.
- ZERO ZERO #3 (July 1995) \$3.95 + \$1.00 = \$4.95 ppd.
- ZERO ZERO #4 (August 1995) \$3.95 + \$1.00 = \$4.95 ppd.
- ZERO ZERO #5 (Sept./Oct. 1995) \$3.95 + \$1.00 = \$4.95 ppd.
- ZERO ZERO #6 (Nov./Dec. 1995) \$3.95 + \$1.00 = \$4.95 ppd.
- SUBSCRIPTION to the next 5 issues \$18.95 (\$20.95 outside U.S.)

Send to:

name _____

address _____

city state zip _____

Send to FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS 7563 Lake City Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115. Visa/Mastercard orders call 1-800-657-1100. Allow 6-8 weeks for delivery; subscribers receive issues as they are released.

zero
zero

FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS

A Pyramid Scan



CAC • Quality • CBZ